

CLAIMS:

1. A cellular telephone comprising:
a first part having a longitudinal axis, the first part including a display; and
a second part coupled to the first part by a pivot mechanism that includes a
5 pivot axis that makes an angle of less than ninety degrees with the longitudinal axis of
the first part, whereby the second part can be oriented to face different azimuthal
angles about the longitudinal axis of the first part.
2. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 further comprising:
10 a third part coupled to the first part by a hinge that includes a hinge axis.
3. The cellular telephone according to claim 2 wherein:
the hinge axis is normal to the pivot axis.
- 15 4. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 wherein:
the pivot axis makes an angle of less than 20 degrees with the longitudinal
axis.
5. The cellular telephone according to claim 4 wherein:
20 the pivot axis makes an angle of less than 15 degrees with the longitudinal
axis.
6. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 wherein:

the first part comprises a first surface;

the second part comprises a second surface located adjacent the first surface of the first part; and

the pivot mechanism comprises:

- 5 a pinion extending from one of the first and second surfaces;
 and
 a hole formed in another of the first and second surfaces,
 wherein the pinion extends into the hole.

- 10 7. The cellular telephone according to claim 6 further comprising:

 a spring seat located in one of the first and second parts, around the hole;

 a spring retainer attached to the pinion; and

- 15 a coil spring located around the pinion between the spring seat and the spring retainer.

8. The cellular telephone according to claim 6 further comprising:

 an annular, axially acting cam disposed on one of the first and second surfaces; and

- 20 an annular, axially engaging follower disposed on another of the first and second surfaces, and positioned to engage the axially acting cam.

9. The cellular telephone according to claim 8 wherein:

the annular axially acting cam is concentric to the pinion; and
the annular axially engaging follower is concentric to the hole.

10. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 wherein:
5 the first part comprises a first display; and
the second part comprises an second display.
11. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 wherein:
the second part comprises a first surface and a second surface;
10 the pivot axis is tilted with respect to the longitudinal axis by an angle
of alpha; and
the first surface and the second surface are tilted in opposite directions
with respect to the pivot axis by the angle alpha.
12. The cellular telephone according to claim 11 wherein:
15 the first part comprises a third surface and a first display located at the
third surface; and
the second part comprises a second display that is disposed at the first
surface of the second part.
- 20 13. The cellular telephone according to claim 11 further comprising:
a third part coupled to the first part by a hinge, that includes a hinge
axis, wherein the hinge axis is perpendicular to the longitudinal axis.

14. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 wherein:

the second part comprises a camera.

15. The cellular telephone according to claim 14 wherein:

5 the second part comprises a display, wherein the display and the camera face in opposite directions.

16. The cellular telephone according to claim 1 further comprising:

10 a stop mechanism for limiting rotation of the first part relative to the second part.

17. A flip type portable telephone comprising:

a lower half; and

a flip coupled to lower half by a hinge, wherein the flip comprises:

15 a lower part that is coupled to the hinge, the lower part of the flip comprising a first display; and

a pivoting head coupled to the lower part by a pivot, wherein the pivot allows the pivoting head to be oriented to face different directions.

20 18. The flip type portable telephone according to claim 17 wherein:

the pivoting head comprises a camera and a display that face in opposite directions.

19. The flip type portable telephone according to claim 18 wherein:
the pivoting head further comprises an earpiece speaker.